

I am incredibly grateful for the service of the domestic violence organizations in my Hawaii, such as the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the some twenty other domestic violence organizations that provide services to survivors and their families, along with each and all of their dedicated workers and volunteers. I am also grateful for our local first responders and law enforcement, who have taken actions to better equip themselves to recognize and respond to domestic violence.

There is so much work to be done still in raising awareness and educating our communities about domestic violence. But for now, for anyone experiencing, witnessing or suspecting domestic violence, please call or text a local or national helpline. They are not alone.

Mahala and aloha.

DR. JOSEPH RAMOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Joseph Ramos for earning the City of Northglenn's Investment Award.

The Investment Award is given to a business that has made significant investments in the past year. Dr. Ramos, a local personal injury lawyer and emergency room doctor, is this year's recipient for his work to take care of his local community during the COVID-19 pandemic. During his medical career, he found that he could care for people to a greater extent by also becoming a lawyer. His expertise in both legal and medical sciences, Dr. Ramos has become one of the most effective personal injury attorneys in our community, helping people receive the best possible medical care possible while ensuring insurance companies pay fairly.

Dr. Ramos's devotion to our community is commendable. Congratulations to Dr. Joseph Ramos on this achievement and I thank him for his contribution to our community.

RECOGNIZING J.D. GROM'S SERVICE TO THE NEW DEMOCRAT COALITION

HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Ms. DELBENE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of J.D. Grom, the longest-serving Executive Director of the New Democrat Coalition.

J.D. departs Capitol Hill this month to continue his federal service as an appointee in the Biden Administration, but he leaves behind a legacy of sound management and strong leadership that will serve the Coalition for years to come.

NewDems occupy an important place within the Democratic Caucus. We are the center of gravity for the House Democrats and an incubator for some of the best, most forward-leaning policy-making on Capitol Hill.

None of that happened by accident. J.D. led the NewDems with a steady hand and a strategic vision that positioned the Members of this Coalition to make real, substantive, and lasting imprints on the legislative output in the House of Representatives.

Under J.D.'s leadership, NewDems were firmly at the center of the work to shape this 21st century economy. Whether speaking out on trade or the ever-evolving future of work in America, NewDems delivered meaningful policy prescriptions and helped put kitchen-table issues front and center for this institution.

NewDems are known for working across ideologies and party lines to deliver results. But more than that, we've also become a home for thoughtful, measured leaders who have had enough of the shouting and division that too often defines our politics.

J.D. embodied that NewDem spirit as a selfless leader and mentor throughout his career. That includes his work on behalf of his hometown Representative, Melissa Bean of Illinois, his work at the Department of the Treasury, and service on behalf of four separate Chairs of the New Democrat Coalition, including me, Rep. RON KIND, Rep. JIM HIMES, and Rep. DEREK KILMER.

On behalf of our entire 95-Member Coalition, I thank J.D. for his service, both past and future, and wish him all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I would have voted YEA for Roll Call number 338, S. 1511—Protecting America's First Responders Act of 2021, had I been present.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE YEMENI AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Yemeni American Chamber of Commerce (YACC) for their work on behalf of the Yemeni American small business community in southeastern Michigan.

Over thirty thousand Yemeni Americans live in Michigan, with a significant number residing in Wayne County. Many Yemeni immigrants were drawn to the area by work in automotive factories and have established their roots here. Immigration to Michigan is still occurring, with some studies indicating that Yemenis comprise nine percent of the area's Arab population and that Yemeni community have some of the largest families. However, the Yemeni community has some of the lowest rate of business ownership, only three percent compared to twenty percent for other Arab groups.

This is why YACC is critical to our community. YACC has established a strong network for the small business community. They encourage growth through education and train-

ing, as well as collaboration among its member businesses. Beyond that, YACC works to create business owners who are also community leaders. They encourage their members to become actively engaged community partners who are truly the backbone of the local economy.

Please join me in recognizing the many outstanding contributions of the Yemeni American Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the communities of Wayne County and southeastern Michigan.

M2 (M-SQUARED) CONFECTIONS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize M2 (m-squared) Confections of Northglenn, Colorado for earning the City of Northglenn's Home-Based Business of the Year Award.

This award recognizes a home-based business that has positively contributed to the community in a meaningful way. As a producer of fine chocolates and candies headed by Kendall and Jonathan Matthews, the business is dedicated to producing high-quality desserts with ingredients sourced according to ethical and sustainable standards. The owners offer world-class expertise, with many years of experience between them. Their dedication and commitment to their craft is reflected by the high caliber of their confections and the impact of their business can be felt throughout the City of Northglenn.

Congratulations again to M2 Confections for this accomplishment and I wish them all the best in the future. I thank them for their contribution to our community.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF PETTY OFFICER RICHARD LERMA, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 2021

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor fifteen distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Chief Petty Officer Richard Lerma of Plano, Texas.

In 1964, upon entering the U.S. Navy and completing basic training, Richard Lerma was